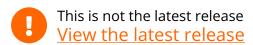


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# Characteristics of Employment, Australia

Weekly earnings of employees, casual workers, independent contractors, trade union membership, labour hire, job flexibility, job security

Reference period August 2021

Released 14/12/2021

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# **Key statistics**

- Median employee earnings increased \$50 (4.3%) between August 2020 and August 2021, to \$1,200 per week.
- 2.4 million casual employees (23% of employees, 19% of all employed), down from 2.6 million in May 2021.
- 41% of employed people regularly worked from home, up from 32% in August 2019.
- 1.0 million independent contractors (7.8% of all employed).

From August 2020, statistics from the Characteristics of Employment survey are now published in three topic-based releases. See:

- <u>Employee earnings (/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/employee-earnings/latest-release)</u>, August 2021
- Working arrangements (/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/working-

arrangements/latest-release), August 2021

• <u>Trade union membership (/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/trade-union-membership/latest-release)</u>, August 2020 (updated biennially)

Characteristics of Employment data for 2014 to 2021 will be available in <u>TableBuilder</u> (/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/characteristics-employment-australia) from 14 December 2021. TableBuilder enables the creation of customised tables and graphs.

Spreadsheets containing data prior to 2021 can be found in the 2020 release (<a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/characteristics-employment-australia/aug-2020">https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/characteristics-employment-australia/aug-2020</a>). In 2022, the ABS will update the spreadsheets to include the timeseries format used in monthly Labour Force statistics and recently implemented for the February 2021 release of <a href="Participation">Participation</a>, Job Search and Mobility (<a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/">https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/participation-job-search-and-mobility-australia/latest-release</a>). When this occurs, each spreadsheet will contain timeseries data for the 2014 to 2021 period, to facilitate automatic downloads and "data scraping," with each timeseries provided a unique series identifier.

### Data downloads

These Characteristics of Employment spreadsheets are also available in the Data downloads section of the relevant <a href="Employee earnings">Employee earnings</a> (/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/employee-earnings/latest-release#data-downloads) and <a href="Working arrangements">Working arrangements</a> (/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/working-arrangements/latest-release#data-downloads) releases.

Table 1a - Median earnings for employees by sex, state and full-time or part-time, 2004–2021

<u>▶ Download XLSX</u> [160.76 KB]

Table 1b - Median earnings for employees by sex, state and status of employment, 2004–2021

<u>**Download XLSX**</u> [161.92 KB]

Table 1c - Median earnings for employees by state, full-time or part-time and status of employment, 2004–2021

#### **▶ Download** XLSX

[164.78 KB]

Table 2 - Median earnings for employees by demographic characteristics and full-time or part-time, 2021

#### **▶ Download** XLSX

[122.79 KB]

Table 3 - Distribution of earnings for employees by industry, 2021

#### **↓ Download** XLSX

[113.22 KB]

Table 4 - Distribution of earnings for employees by occupation and skill level, 2021

#### **▶ Download** XLSX

[85.49 KB]

Table 5 - Distribution of earnings for employees by educational qualification, 2021

#### **↓ Download** XLSX

[79.36 KB]

Table 6 - Median earnings for employees by industry, occupation and educational qualification, 2021

#### **↓ Download** XLSX

[100.22 KB]

Table 7 - Median earnings for employees and OMIEs by working arrangements, 2021

#### **<u> → Download XLSX</u>**

[102.4 KB]

Table 8 - Median earnings for employees and OMIEs by demographic characteristics, 2021

#### **▶ Download** XLSX

[107.79 KB]

Table 9 - Form of employment by demographic characteristics, 2021

#### **<u> ▶ Download XLSX</u>**

[<u>69.5 KB</u>]

Table 10 - Form of employment by industry, occupation and educational qualification, 2021

#### **<u> → Download XLSX</u>**

[79.66 KB]

## Previous catalogue number

This release previously used catalogue number 6333.0\*.

Prior to 2014, statistics related to employee earnings, trade union membership and working arrangements were published in:

- Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia (<a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/6310.0">https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/6310.0</a>) (catalogue number 6310.0)
- Forms of Employment, Australia (https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/6359.0) (catalogue number 6359.0)
- Working Time Arrangements, Australia (https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf /PrimaryMainFeatures/6342.0) (catalogue number 6342.0)
- <u>Locations of Work, Australia (https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf /PrimaryMainFeatures/6275.0)</u> (catalogue number 6275.0) (includes data on working from home)
- Employment Benefits, Australia (https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/6334.0) (catalogue number 6334.0)
- <u>Trade Union Members, Australia (https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/6325.0)</u> (catalogue number 6325.0)

\*Note: Catalogue number 6333.0 was previously used for <u>Working Conditions</u>, <u>Australia</u> (<u>Preliminary</u>) (<u>https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/6335.0Feb-May%201979?OpenDocument</u>), Feb to May 1979.

# Methodology

Characteristics of Employment, Australia methodology, August 2021